

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A recombinant vector, pDATH-X (Dominant negative, Antisense, TET-ON controllable Heat shock promoter plasmid), said vector comprising the cassettes:

(a) cassette 1 comprising TET-ON expressed under the control of a heat shock promoter and a tet operator, wherein said TET-ON consists of a fusion of the coding sequences for amino acids 1-207 of the tetracycline repressor and the C-terminus last 130 amino acid transcription activation domain of VP16 protein of the herpes simplex virus, wherein said heat shock promoter consists of heat shock response elements consisting of nucleotide sequence - 260 to 30 (~~-260 to -30~~) of the human heat shock 70 gene promoter linked to a minimal cytomegalovirus promoter (pCMV) and wherein said tet operator consists of 19 bp inverted repeats of operator O2 of TN10 to which tet repressor and TET-ON bind;

C1 (b) cassette 2 comprising a cloning site for a therapeutic gene downstream of a tetp-CMV promoter consisting of a tet operator linked to a minimal cytomegalovirus promoter (pCMV), wherein said tet operator consists of 19 bp inverted repeats of operator O2 of TN10 to which tet repressor and TET-ON bind;

(c) cassette 3 comprising antisense TET-ON under the control of pCMV promoter, wherein said antisense TET-ON consists of an antisense sequence complementary ~~sequence~~ to the first 80 nucleotides of the TET-ON sequence including the ATG start codon; and,

(d) cassette 4 comprising a dominant negative TET-ON under the control of pCMV promoter, wherein said dominant negative TET-ON consists of tet repressor without a VP16 transactivation domain.

2-3. (canceled)

4-28. (withdrawn)